

U.S.S.N.: 10/708,955

2

04-0016/015368 (BOE 0480 PA)

Amendments To The Specification:

Please replace existing paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] The bi-level galley module 12 is utilized for storing a series of galley carts 20 in the main-deck sub-module 16 and/or the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]] In this way, the bi-level galley module 12 can store about twice as many galley carts 20 as a single-level galley module having a similarly sized perimeter. This feature is beneficial because it can decrease the overall number of galleys in the airplane and increase the amount of available space on the main deck. One skilled in the art will understand that this additional space can be utilized for hosting additional passenger seats, maintaining the same number of passenger seats while increasing their size, increasing the room for the passengers and the crewmembers to move about the airplane 10, providing various other advantages, or any combination thereof. In addition, it will be appreciated that this bi-level galley module 12 does not occupy any space in the lower lobe or cargo bay of the airplane 10. In this regard, the bi-level galley module 12 is further beneficial for preserving the payload capacity of the airplane 10. For these reasons, it is understood that the integrated transport system 14 can improve the efficiency of the airplane 10 as a vehicle for transporting persons, luggage, and various other items. It is also understood that the bi-level galley module 12 can store various other suitable objects besides galley carts 20 as desired.

U.S.S.N.: 10/708,955

3

04-0016/015368 (BOE 0480 PA)

Please replace existing paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] Referring now to Figures 4A-4D, there generally is shown the sequential operation of the integrated transport system 14 for storing a galley cart 20 in the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]] Specifically, Figure 4A shows a crewmember securing the galley cart 20 to the integrated transport system 14. Furthermore, Figure 4B illustrates the integrated transport system 14 moving the galley cart 20 upward generally along a longitudinal axis 22 of a shaft 24, which extends between the main-deck sub-module 16 and the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]] Additionally, Figure 4C shows the integrated transport system 14 moving the galley cart 20 along a first lateral axis 26 of the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]] Finally, Figure 4D illustrates the integrated transport system moving the galley cart 20 generally along a second lateral axis 28 for placing the galley cart 20 in a storage area 30 of the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]]

Please replace existing paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] Referring now to Figure 4B, the single-unit gantry-lift device 42 [[46]] further includes a lift device 46 coupled to the object carrier 32 for raising and lowering the object carrier 32 along the longitudinal axis 22 of the shaft 24. In this way, the object carrier 32 and the galley cart 20 contained therein can be moved between the main-deck sub-module 16 and the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]] This lift device 46 is a motorized pulley mechanism. However, it is contemplated that the lift device 46 can instead be a screw mechanism, a belt mechanism, manually operated or otherwise, or any combination thereof as desired.

U.S.S.N.: 10/708,955

4

04-0016/015368 (BOE 0480 PA)

Please replace existing paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph:

[0029] Moreover, the single-unit gantry-lift device 42 ~~[[46]]~~ further includes a gantry device 44, which is coupled to the lift device 46. As best shown in Figure 4C, this gantry device 44 is utilized for moving the lift device 46 and the object carrier 32 along the first axis 26 of the overhead sub-module 18 ~~[[sub module 18]]~~ to a point adjacent to an open or available section of the storage area 30. Specifically, a crewmember can climb a ladder 48, enter the overhead sub-module 18 ~~[[sub module 18]]~~ via a walkway 50 in the overhead sub-module 18, ~~[[sub module 18,]]~~ grab hold of one or more handles 52 extending from the object carrier 32, and pull the object carrier 32 along the first axis 26. In this way, the crew member can utilize the gantry device 44 for moving the galley cart 20 next to its final destination in the storage area 30.

Please replace existing paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] To that end, the gantry device 44 includes a pair of rails 54, which is mounted to the overhead sub-module 18 ~~[[sub module 18]]~~ via bolt fasteners or other suitable fasteners. These rails 54 are utilized for suspending the lift device 46 and the object carrier 32 therefrom and preventing the object carrier 32 from tipping and casing the galley cart 20 to fall from the object carrier 32. Moreover, in accordance with the aforementioned, each rail 54 is substantially aligned with the first axis 26 of the overhead sub-module 18 ~~[[sub module 18]]~~ for moving the lift device 46 and the object carrier 32 along the first axis 26 of the overhead sub-module 18. ~~[[sub module 18.]]~~

U.S.S.N.: 10/708,955

5

04-0016/015368 (BOE 0480 PA)

Please replace existing paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] As shown in Figure 4D, the crewmember can reach through the opening 40 in the plate member 34, grab hold of the galley cart 20, and move the galley cart 20 along the second axis 28 between the object carrier 32 and the storage area 30 of the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]]

Please delete paragraph [0034], which starts with "In another embodiment illustrated in Figure 6."

Please delete paragraph [0035], which starts with "These lateral extension members 66 have a rod construction."

Please replace existing paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] Referring now to Figure 6, [[7,]] there is shown a logic flow diagram for a method for operating the integrated transport system 14 shown in Figures 4A-4D. The method begins in step 100 and then immediately proceeds to step 102.

Please replace existing paragraph [0039] with the following amended paragraph:

[0039] In step 106, the crewmember climbs the ladder 48 and enters the overhead sub-module 18 [[sub module 18]] via the walkway 50. This crewmember stands on the walkway 50 and waits for the object carrier 32 to arrive within the overhead sub-module 18. [[sub module 18.]] The sequence then proceeds to step 108.

U.S.S.N.: 10/708,955

6

04-0016/015368 (BOE 0480 PA)

Please replace existing paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

[0040] In step 108, the crewmember operates the gantry device 44 for moving the lift device 46, the object carrier 32, and the galley cart 20 along the first axis 26 of the overhead sub-module 18. ~~[[sub module 18.]]~~ This gantry device 44 can be a manually operated device comprised of a pair of rails 54 mounted to the overhead sub-module and also attached to the lift device 46 via one or more sliding members 60 or rolling members 56. The gantry device 44 is manually operated. Specifically, the object carrier 32 includes one or more handles 52 for allowing the crewmember to move the object carrier 32, the galley cart 20, and the lift device 46 along the rails 54. In another embodiment, the gantry device 44 is a motorized device. The sequence then proceeds to step 110.